

RARITAN BAY SLAG SUPERFUND SITE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP/SAYREVILLE, NEW JERSEY

AUGUST 2021



Current and Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) informed NL Industries (NL), a potentially responsible party (PRP) for the Raritan Bay Slag Superfund site, that EPA will take over completing the design plans to support the Seawall Sector of the site cleanup on August 20, 2021. After reviewing the most recent draft of the design plan prepared by NL, EPA determined that significant technical issues and concerns remain, despite EPA's oversight and detailed input. By taking over the work, EPA will ensure that the design is completed in a technically sound manner that will lead to a successful cleanup of the Seawall Sector.



Past Activities

EPA issued a cleanup plan for the site in a May 2013 document called a Record of Decision (ROD). The cleanup plan calls for excavating or removing and dredging contaminated material. EPA completed the Margaret's Creek Sector cleanup in September 2018. The cleanup, which included removing approximately 15,775 tons of soil and 1,802 tons of slag from this portion of the site, cost about \$7 million.

Throughout the cleanup of the Margaret's Creek Sector, EPA continued to negotiate with NL and the other PRPs to conduct the remaining work at the site. Consistent with this, NL agreed to complete the engineering design work for the planned cleanup action for the Seawall Sector.



Community Advisory Group (CAG)

With EPA's assistance, a Community Advisory Group (CAG) was formed for the site in June 2010. The CAG is comprised of members of the local community and includes residents directly impacted by the site, local public interest groups and government units. The CAG reviews technical information and meets with EPA regularly.

RARITAN BAY SLAG SUPERFUND SITE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP/SAYREVILLE, NEW JERSEY

AUGUST 2021



NL has been working on this since late 2019; however, significant concerns remain with the engineering plans prepared by NL. EPA has concluded that it can develop a design plan that meets EPA's requirements in less time by doing the work directly rather than continuing to oversee NL's work. In addition, EPA has started design work for the Jetty Sector of the site and will begin cleanup work there once work at the Seawall Sector is complete.

Site Background

The Raritan Bay Slag Superfund site is on the southern shore of Raritan Bay. The site consists of the Seawall Sector, which contains a seawall about 2,300 feet long in Old Bridge Township, NJ, the Margaret's Creek Sector, which consists of a 47-acre wetland located immediately east of the Seawall Sector, and the Jetty Sector, which consists of the approximately 750-foot-long western jetty, located nearly a mile west of the seawall in adjacent Sayreville, New Jersey.

The primary sources of contamination are slag and battery casings. The seawall and the western jetty were constructed using slag from blast furnace bottoms from secondary smelting operations in the late 1960s to early 1970s. Battery casings were also deposited at the site, particularly in the Margaret's Creek Sector. The slag and battery casings resulted in high levels of lead contamination, including along the seawall and in the sand of a recreational beach immediately west of the seawall which resulted in closure of a significant portion of a recreational beach area.

EPA Contact Information

Pat Seppi

Community Involvement Coordinator
(646) 369-0068
seppi.pat@epa.gov

Tanya Mitchell

Remedial Project Manager
(212) 637-4362
mitchell.tanya@epa.gov

www.epa.gov/superfund/raritan-bay-slag
